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Jan. 3, 1941

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Office of Information

Part I - STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL

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AGRICULTURE AND NATIONAL DEFENSE

SUMMARY OF FOREIGN DEVELOPMENTS: UNITED KINGDOM: It appears that a decision will be made in mid-January relative to the addition of vitamins and minerals to foods. The authorities apparently are of the opinion that for psychological and other reasons reliance for such nutritive elements should be placed fundamentally upon foods naturally rich in such elements and that they should be added to foods only as a second line of defense. The only case where such additions are now in practice is that of vitamin A and F to all margarine. The addition of vitamin B<sub>1</sub> to white bread has been approved for later in 1941 but the possibility exists that the flour extraction will be raised instead from 73 to around 85 percent. It is also understood that an emergency biscuit and emergency chocolate bar containing several added vitamins and minerals is contemplated and in preparation.

GERMANY: Reports indicate that an agreement has been concluded with Sweden providing for a total clearing turnover between the two countries in 1941 of 2,000,000,000 kroner (\$476,364,000) against 1,400,000,000 kroner (\$333,454,800) in 1940. It is estimated that 70 percent of Sweden's total foreign trade in 1941 will be with Germany. Among the leading products to be exported by Sweden are wood products, cellulose, paper and iron ore. Outstanding among Germany's exports to Sweden will be coal and coke, iron and steel products, chemical products, especially fertilizers, and artificial wool.

SWEDEN: Swedish trade agreements with states now closely bound to the Reich are in the process of revision. Indications are that a temporary agreement for the first two months of 1941 has been concluded with Norway providing for mutual trade to the value of 25,000,000 kroner (\$6,000,000) in that period. German-occupied Norway is understood to have undertaken to provide herrings, fertilizers, and certain oils for Swedish consumption. An agreement between Italy and Sweden effective January 1 is expected to increase trade between the two countries considerably. A new agreement was signed with Denmark covering the first half of 1941 providing for imports from Denmark to the value of 30,000,000 Danish crowns (\$6,000,000) and of exports to Denmark to the value of 40,000,000 Danish crowns (\$8,000,000).

YUGOSLAVIA: Reports indicate that a delegation of Yugoslav textile manufacturers in Moscow concluded an agreement with Soviet Russia under which Russia will ship to Yugoslavia, in excess of quotas previously provided for, 4,000 metric tons of raw cotton and 600 tons of cotton waste.

SWITZERLAND: Indications are that an agreement was concluded several weeks ago with Soviet Russia for the delivery to Switzerland of 7,000 tons of cotton of which the first 1,000 tons have already arrived.

HUNGARY: Reports indicate that under an agreement dated September 3 Soviet Russia was to send 4,000 tons of raw cotton and \$260,000 worth of cotton waste to Hungary during the treaty year. Efforts are also to be made to arrange for shipments of American cotton to Hungary by way of Vladivostok and Siberia.



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Part II - FOR ADMINISTRATIVE USE

AGRICULTURE AND NATIONAL DEFENSE

THE GOOD NEIGHBOR AND LATIN AMERICA: Agricultural aspects of the Good Neighbor Policy in respect to the Latin American Republics is discussed in a pamphlet published by the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations. The title is "MORE TRADE WITH LATIN AMERICA: THE KEY TO HEMISPHERE SOLIDARITY." It discusses the principal agricultural products we now import from Latin America, proposed methods to increase trade, and means of stimulating complementary or noncompetitive products in Latin America. A copy of the 9-page pamphlet may be obtained from the Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations, U. S. Department of Agriculture.

DEFENSE ACTIVITIES AND PLANS OF THE DEPARTMENT, coming either from the Bureaus or the Defense Commission, funnel through the Office of the Secretary. The secretariat is composed of two new assistants, named since the appointment of Secretary Wickard, and one assistant who served also with former Secretary Wallace. Here's a thumb-nail sketch of the three Assistants to the Secretary:

JAMES L. McCAMY: Native of Knoxville, Tenn.; A.B. degree from University of Texas in 1929, and M.A. in 1932; received Ph. D. degree from University of Chicago in 1938; worked as a reporter on Austin America, Austin, Texas, while attending school, served on staff of Texas Alumni association from 1928-32, and was a tutor in Government at University of Texas, 1932-33; served as a fellow and research assistant at University of Chicago until 1934 when he was appointed professor of Government and Chairman of Social Studies at Bennington College, Bennington, Vt. He has served as assistant to the Secretary since February 1, 1939. Shortly before his present appointment, McCamy published a book titled "Government Publicity: Its Practice in Federal Administration."

CARL HAMILTON: Native of Glidden, Iowa; graduated from Iowa State College, Ames, in 1936 with a B.S. degree in Agricultural Journalism; worked one year with Economics Department of Iowa State College under the direction of Dr. T. W. Schultz; After working several months on a north Iowa weekly, Hamilton came to Washington in September, 1938, to handle information for AAA's North Central Division, of which Secretary Wickard was director at the time; later he became assistant chief of the AAA press section and next became assistant to the Under Secretary when Mr. Wickard was appointed to that post. Hamilton moved on as assistant when Mr. Wickard was named Secretary.

DAVID MEEKER: Native of Cabool, Mo.; took his B.S. degree in agriculture at the University of Missouri in 1924; served with the Missouri Agricultural Extension Service from 1924-39; during latter part of tenure he served as representative of the State Director of Extension on the State AAA committee; joined the staff of Bureau of Agricultural Economics in 1939 as a principal agricultural economist in Division of Program Development and Coordination; Meeker is the newest member of the secretariat, moving to his present post about December first.

